

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Serial Number: 09/439,225

Filing Date: November 12, 1999

Title: System and Method for Displaying Selected Garments on a Computer-Simulated Mannequin

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Cone. If applicant has misinterpreted the rejection, clarification is respectfully requested in the next official communication. In light of the current rejections, applicant believes that if any subsequent rejections are made, they should be nonfinal to allow applicant to respond properly to the corrected rejections.

a. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-9, 13, 16-22, 24-34, 36, 38, 40-41, and 44

Arguments made with respect to claims 1, 16, 19, 29, 32, 34, 38, and 44 are contained in section 1, paragraphs A through F, of the office action. Section 6 of the office action further states that the same analysis should be applied to claims 3-4, 6-9, 13, 17-18, 20-22, 24-28, 30-31, 33, 36, and 40-41. Applicant respectfully traverses as follows:

Section 1, Paragraph B of the office action asserts that Cone teaches "The step of generating objects corresponding to a representative mannequin and a garment placed in a simulation scene within a three-dimensional modeling environment." Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion and believes it is incorrect, since applicant is unable to find a teaching or suggestion in Cone about representing garments as objects in a three-dimensional modeling environment and about simulation scenes within a three-dimensional modeling environment. For example, in col. 2, lines 15-34, Cone states:

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention provides a computer system for displaying clothing on a rendered image of a human body referred to as a virtual dressing room system ("VDRS"). The VDRS receives a series of control lines defining the three-dimensional shape of the human body. A contour line is a series of points that defines the perimeter of the body in a horizontal plane. The VDRS also receives a sequence of points defining the two-dimensional shape of the clothing. The VDRS also scales the sequence of points defining the two-dimensional shape of the clothing to the approximate width of a portion of the human body over which the clothing is worn. For each point of the two-dimensional shape, the VDRS identifies a corresponding point on a contour line, and adjusts the point of the two-dimensional shape of the clothing to correspond to the identified point. The VDRS renders the shape of the human body on a display device, and renders the scaled and adjusted two-dimensional shape of the clothing on the display device to effect the display of the human body wearing the clothing.

Thus, Cone does not relate to a garment placed in a simulation scene within a three-dimensional modeling environment.

Section 1, Paragraph C of the office action asserts that Cone discloses "The step of simulating draping and collision of the garment within the simulation scene to generate a three-dimensional rendering frame of the mannequin wearing the garment . . ." The office action also

states that the “step of draping and collision of the garment is disclosed by Cone with VDRS tailoring method.” Applicant respectfully traverses these assertions. It is believed that the above discussion of the VDRS demonstrates that the VDRS of Cone relates to a two-dimensional garment image scaled to fit the body, in contrast to a draping and collision simulation.

Section 1, Paragraph D of the office action asserts that Cone discloses the “step of constraining portions of the garment to reside within or outside of particular shells defined around the mannequin in the rendering frame.” The office action further states that “Cone teaches the constraining portions of the garment by the fitting of bikini to the mannequin.” Insofar as the rejection is asserting that Cone teaches the use of shells or that the bikini fitting in Cone is a shell teaching, Applicant respectfully traverses the assertions. In contrast, the bikini fitting of Cone relates to appropriate placement of the bikini on a figure and does not provide the disclosed shell method of the present application. Applicant is unable to find in Cone a discussion or suggestion of shells as recited in the present claims.

Section 1, Paragraph F of the office action states that Cone discloses the “step of generating rendering frames containing mannequin or garment objects as defined by selected parameter values by shape blending corresponding objects of previously generated rendering frames” Insofar as the assertion relates to three-dimensional modeling of garments, applicant respectfully traverses the assertion.

b. Claims 2, 35, and 43

With respect to claims 2, 35, and 43, section 2 of the office action states that Cone “discloses the rendered image is used to form a visual image on a computer display device.” For the reasons stated above, Applicant traverses this assertion insofar as it relates to three dimensional modeling of garments.

c. Claims 5, 23, 42, and 45

With respect to claims 5, 23, 42, and 45, section 3 of the office action states that Cone “discloses the two-dimensional images are rendered from a rendering frame using a plurality of

camera positions.” As discussed above, Applicant traverses this assertion insofar as it relates to three dimensional modeling of garments.

d. Claims 10-12 and 39

With respect to claims 10-12 and 39, section 4 of the office action states that Cone “discloses the separate rendering frames are combined into a composite two-dimensional image using Z-coordinates of the objects.” As discussed above, Applicant traverses this assertion insofar as it relates to three dimensional modeling of garments.

e. Claims 14-15

With respect to claims 14-15, section 5 of the office action states that Cone “discloses a network and a processor-executable instructions.” Cone does not disclose processor-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1 as recited by claim 15. Applicant can find nothing in the Cone reference directly related to networks.

Cone Teaches Away from the Present Subject Matter

Thus, it is believed that Cone fails to render the present subject matter obvious, and in fact teaches away from the recited subject matter. For instance, it is believed that Cone teaches away from true three dimensional modeling of the garment and that Cone cannot, among other things, provide the simulating draping and collision, constraining and rendering, as recited in claim 1 and in the dependent claims 2-15. It is respectfully submitted that Cone cannot provide, among other things, the simulating draping and collision, generating rendering frames, and rendering, as recited in claim 16 and in dependent claims 17-18. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that Cone cannot provide, among other things, the simulating draping and collision, constraining portions of the garment, and rendering, as recited in claim 19 and in dependent claims 20-28. Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that Cone cannot provide, among other things, the three-dimensional modeling environment and means for constraining portions of a garment, as recited in claim 29 and in dependent claims 30 and 31. It is respectfully submitted that Cone cannot provide, among other things, the three-dimensional modeling environment and

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means for generating a rendering frame, as recited in claim 32 and in dependent claim 33. It is also respectfully submitted that Cone cannot provide, among other things, the simulating draping and collision and constraining portions of the garment, as recited in claim 38 and in dependent claims 39-43.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-33 and 38-43 are respectfully requested.

Claims 34-37 and 44-45 Not Specifically Rejected

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection fails to show how Cone provides, among other things, a compositing rule interpreter, as recited in claim 34 and in dependent claims 35-37.

Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection fails to show how Cone provides, among other things, means for displaying the two dimensional images of user-selected garments and of a selected mannequin in a layered order determined from depth information contained in the simulation scene as recited in claim 44 and in dependent claim 45.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 34-37 and 44-45 are respectfully requested.

Timely Traversal of Things Asserted to be Obvious to One of Ordinary Skill In the Art

Applicant timely traverses assertions of things that would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art made in the office action as a form of Official Notice. Applicant respectfully requests a reference supporting such assertions per MPEP 2144.03 or their withdrawal in the next official action.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant believes the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such action. Please charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account 19-0743. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney at 612-373-6912 to discuss any questions which may remain with respect to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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By their Representatives,

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